

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NAR, TH

SUBJ: NEWMAN CONSULTATIONS ON THAI NARCOTICS TREATMENT
PROG AMS

1. DR. ROBERT NEWMAN IS NOW IN BANGKOK TO ASSIST THAI OFFICIALS IN DEVELOPING TREATMENT AND OTHER DEMAND REDUCTION APPROACHES TO REDUCING DRUG DEPENDENCE. MAJOR PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT IS TO REVIEW CURRENT APPROACHES AND TO CONSULT ON MODALITIES AND TECHNIQUES WHICH MAY BE USEFUL TO THAI AUTHORITIES. NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE (NIDA) ANTICIPATES THAT NEWMAN, IN ADDITION TO MAKING SUGGESTIONS TO GOVERNMENT AND TREATMENT OFFICIALS WHILE THERE, WILL ALSO PREPARE A REPORT OF HIS OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS AFTER HE RETURNS TO THE U.S., WHICH MAY BE USEFUL IN OTHER COUNTRIES IN SE ASIA.

2. REQUEST EMBASSY PASS COPY THIS CABLE TO NEWMAN SO HE
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MAY CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND QUESTIONS FOR CONSULTATION THERE AND FOR HIS REPORT: A. WHO ARE THE MAJOR INDIVIDUALS AND PROGRAMS PROVIDING TREATMENT FOR DRUG ABUSE AND THEIR SPONSORING INSTITUTIONS? WHAT IS THE SIZE

OF THEIR PROGRAMS IN RELATION TO THE NEED THAT EXISTS (E.G., ESTIMATE OF NUMBERS OF TREATED AND UNTREATED ADDICTS). B. MAJOR MODALITIES OF TREATMENT USED IN THESE INSTITUTIONS

AND THE CRITERIA THAT ARE USED TO DETERMINE WHETHER PATIENTS SHOULD BE ADMITTED TO PROGRAMS AND WHEN THEY ARE READY FOR DISCHARGE. (FOR EXAMPLE, HOW DOES THANYARAK HOSPITAL DETERMINE WHO SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN ITS PROGRAM?)

C. ASSUMING TREATMENT FACILITIES NOT ADEQUATE, WHAT PLANS ARE THERE TO EXPAND OR IMPROVE FACILITIES? WHAT INTEREST IS THERE IN COLLABORATING WITH THE U.S. AND HOW WOULD THIS BE COORDINATED WITH ONGOING WHO PROGRAM? D. HOW WILL OR HOW COULD PLANS INCLUDE PROVISION FOR UP-COUNTRY PROGRAMS AS IN CHIANG MAI AREA? E. HOW RECEPTIVE ARE THAI EXPERTS TO THE EXPANDED USE OF OUT-PATIENT DETOXIFICATION? IF EXPANSION PLANNED, WHAT TYPE OF ORGANIZATIONAL BASE IS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT THIS FUTURE PROGRAM? F. ARE THERE OTHER THERAPEUTIC MODALITIES WHICH ALSO NEED EXPANSION, SUCH AS METHADONE MAINTENANCE. WHAT PLANS DOES COLONEL CHAVALIT YODMANEE, DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL, CND, HAVE FOR THIS PROGRAM? (FYI: IN ANSWER TO QUESTION RAISED IN BANGKOK 11572, IT IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR ANY OVERSEAS PROGRAM TO OBTAIN METHADONE FROM U.S. SOURCES. NIDA SUGGESTS PHARMACEUTICAL OUTLETS IN BANGKOK BE EXPLORED.) G. WHAT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES EXIST, ESPECIALLY WITH NARCOTIC ANTAGONISTS AND ACUPUNCTURE? IS ANYONE DEVELOPING PROPOSALS THAT COULD BE CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING IN THE U.S.? ARE ANY CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGISTS INTERESTED IN BEGINNING STUDIES ON OPIUM AND HEROIN THAT WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO BOTH THAI AND U.S. OFFICIALS? SEVERAL PERSONS AT CHULALONGKORN HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL AND OTHER FACILITIES HAVE INDICATED AN INTEREST IN THE PAST, (E.G., DR. CHARAS SUWANWELA, DR. CHOWDERY). H. ARE THERE PERSONS WHO COULD PROFITABLY VISIT THE U.S. TO OBSERVE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN DRUG DEPENDENCE? IS DR. PHON INTERESTED (SUGGESTED BY DR. MARTIN GLASSER, DIRECTOR OF THE BANGKOK YTC); ALSO, ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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THERE ANY TREATMENT PERSONNEL, SOCIAL WORKERS OR YOUTH LEADERS WHO WOULD QUALIFY FOR DEPARTMENTAL GRANTS IN THE NIDA - COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM 1976 SESSIONS? CONTACT WITH CULTURAL AFFAIRS OFFICER IN EMB WOULD ASSIST NIDA AND CIP IN LOCATING QUALIFIED PERSONS WHO WOULD AID THAI TREATMENT EFFORTS.

3. NEWMAN SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT IN RESEARCHING ABOVE QUESTIONS HE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT CONVEY IMPRESSION THAT CCINC OR OTHER USG ELEMENTS ENCOURAGING RAPID EXPANSION

OF USG-FINANCED ACTIVITIES. AT THIS POINT WE SEEKING FROM NEWMAN HIS EVALUATION OF POSSIBLE RPT POSSIBLE

PROGRAMS. KISSINGER

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